commercial purchase of kapas at the prevailing market prices for meeting the requirements of institutional buyers like National Textile Corporation, State Textile Corporations, Cooperative Spinning Mills etc. against firm indents and for fulfilling the export quotas alloted to it by the Government.

(b) and (c) The Government of Maharashtra had sought extension of the Scheme of Monopoly Procurement of Cotton in the State for a period of 10 years w.e.f. 1st July, 1990. Govt. have granted extension to the Scheme for a period of 3 years w.e.f. 1st July, 1990 on the existing terms and conditons.

Introduction of a Fresh Bill for placing Handloom Reservation Act under Ninth Schedule

*328. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Bill 1990 which sought to place the handloom reservation law under the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution has been lapsed;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to introduce a fresh Bill for the purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Handloom Reservation Act and the orders issued thereunder are at present stayed under orders of the Court. The case is pending for disposal in the Supreme Court. Government wants to await judgement of the Court before taking a decision regarding inclusion of the Act in the IX Schedule.

Bi-Lingual Computer facility for Indian Mission Abroad

*329. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Indian missions abroad have bi-lingual computer procesing facility if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, what is the time-bound programme to provide bi-lingual computing facility and training in Indian missions abroad; and

(c) whether there are adequate computing facilities and technical manpower support to ensure full bilingual computerisation and development of advanced technology and Strategic Information Database to provide the right kind of information to the right kind of agencies in India without loss of time?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government's policy is to istal computers in Indian Missions and Posts abroad in a phased manner, keeping in view their functional requirements with regard to areas of work including the need for bi-lingual capabilities. Training is provided on the basis of functional requirements. All Indian missions abroad are equipped to convey requisite information to the Government and other agencies with minimum loss of time. Steps are constantly being taken to upgrade these facilities.

U.S. help for resolving Kashmir Dispute

*330. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: